

SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
October 20, 2008

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:45 p.m. in Arts and Craft Room at the Mansfield Senior Center

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Clouette, Duffy, Nesbitt, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer  
Absent: Blair, Haddad, Koehn

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of *Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision* (Strategic Plan)

Mayor Paterson asked Town Manager Matthew Hart to facilitate the evening's discussion. Mr. Hart stated the goal was to review the Strategic Plan with an emphasis on identifying priorities and assignments. These priorities will serve as a policy guide to the Council over the next year or so.

By consensus the Council agreed to communicate with the identified advisory groups to ensure that they are interested in assisting and have the necessary time to commit. These groups will be charged with critically reviewing the Action Items and submitting quarterly reports itemizing what has been accomplished. The Council will ask each group to view their charge with the following items in mind: fiscal impact, statutory requirements, sustainability and regionalization. The Council also advised that at least two active members of the Mansfield 2020 Search Community Participants be present at the initial advisory meetings to provide continuity and background information.

Potential Assignments

K-12 Education and Early Childhood

- Expand Youth Services (Pg 14) – refer to Youth Service Bureau
- Provide Affordable early care and education for children from birth through kindergarten (Pg 15) – refer to Mansfield Advocates for Children
- Focus on holistic education (Pg 16) – refer to Regional and Mansfield Boards of Education
- Promote healthy lifestyles (Pg 17) – refer to Regional and Mansfield Boards of Education
- Improved coordination of curricula, administration, and transportation among Region 19 towns (Pg18) – refer to Regional and Mansfield Boards of Education

Historic and Rural Character, Open Space and Working Farms

- Meet with chairs/ representatives of the Open Space Preservation Committee, the Historic District Commission, the Conservation Commission, the Agricultural Committee and the Cemetery Committee to review this vision point and the implementation of the supporting action. (Pgs 20-21)

#### Housing

- Meet with chairs/representatives from the Housing Authority, Quality of Life Committee, Planning and Zoning Commission, University Town Relations Committee, Advisory Committee of Persons with Disabilities, Commission on Aging and the Town Manager to review this vision point and the implementation of the supporting action plans. (Pgs. 24-26)

#### Public Safety

- Ensure efficient deployment of resources to meet community demands and needs: Commission study during FY 2009/10 to review police service delivery system. (Pg 28) and Enhance Community Policing Model (Pg 30) – Town Council
- Ensure efficient deployment of resources to meet community demands and needs: Evaluate Fire and EMS Capital Infrastructure and Response Profile. (Pg 29) and Focus on fire and life safety education (Pg 31) – Chief Dagon will be asked for recommendations from the Fire Officers' Group and the Mansfield Volunteer Firefighters who will discuss possible next steps.
- Be prepared to effectively respond to natural and manmade disasters: Facilitate inter-agency cooperation (Pg 32) – refer to Emergency Management Advisory Committee

#### Recreation, Health and Wellness

- Meet with chairs/representatives of Eastern Highland Health District, the Parks Advisory Committee and the Recreation Advisory Committee to review this vision point and the implementation of the supporting action plans. (Pgs 34-36)

#### Regionalism

- Encourage town government to work with colleges and universities to develop regional initiatives. (Pg 38- 40) – Mark Paquette, Director of WINCOG will be presenting WINCOG's Strategic Plan to the Mansfield Town Council at the next meeting. The Council will review the Action Plan Items after the presentation.
- Investigate the value of a regional school system by working with surrounding towns and their respective school districts. (Pg 38-40) – Consult initially with Chairs of the Mansfield Board of Education and the Chair of the Region 19 Board of Education, as well as the Superintendents of both school districts, to discuss how this proposal could move forward.
- Create a structure to support regional development efforts for economic development, water, transportation and housing (pg 38-40) – All advisory groups will have this item as part of their charge as they review their Action Items

### Senior Services

- Meet with chairs/representatives from the Commission on Aging, the Senior Center Association and the Human Services Department to review this vision point and the implementation of the supporting action plans. (Pgs 42-48)

### Sustainability and Planning

- The Town Council should define “sustainability” in any charge to a Sustainability or related committee. If established, a Sustainability Committee could include representatives from an environmental advisory group, an economic advisory group and the Community Quality of Life Committee.
- All advisory committees will be charged with reviewing their Action Items and recommendations with sustainability as a guide.
- Economic Development (Pg 53-55) – Advisory Committee for the Four Corners Sewer Planning Project will take the lead on this issue for the next six months.
- Review, refine and revise land use policies and regulations to reflect environmental, sustainability and economic development policies. (Pgs 56-57)- refer to Planning and Zoning Commission
- Create/Implement sustainable transportation systems (Pg 60) – refer to Transportation Advisory Committee
- Promote public participation and efficiency in town government and the public education of Town residents. (Pgs 61-62)- Action Steps numbered 1-9 will be referred to the Communication Advisory Committee and Promoting efficient government numbered 1 –6 will be addressed by the Town Council
- The Council agreed to delay further action until Ms. Koehn is in attendance.

### University/Town Relations

- The Community Campus Partnership and the University-Town Relations Committee will review this vision point and the implementation of the supporting action plans. This group can decide if other groups warrant inclusion. (Pgs 64-68)

## IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

- No comments

## V. ADJOURNMENT

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Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk.